UNITED
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General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/RES/45/161
6 March 1991

Forty-fifth session
Agenda item 12

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the Third Committee (A/45/838)]

45/161. Assistance to refugees and returnees in Ethiopia

The General Assembly,

Recalling all its resolutions, in particular resolution 44/154 of 15 December 1989, as well as all those of the Economic and Social Council, on assistance to displaced persons in Ethiopia,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General, 1/

Having considered the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, 2/

Recognizing the increasing number of refugees and voluntary returnees in Ethiopia,

Deeply concerned about the massive presence of refugees and voluntary returnees in the country and the enormous burden this has placed on the country's infrastructure and meagre resources,

Deeply concerned also about the grave consequences this has entailed for the country's capability to grapple with the effects of the prolonged drought,

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1/ A/45/447.

2/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 12 (A/45/12).

READEX FICHE

Aware of the heavy burden placed on the Government of Ethiopia and of the need for adequate assistance to refugees, voluntary returnees and victims of natural disasters,

1. Commends the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and intergovernmental organizations and voluntary agencies for their assistance in mitigating the plight of the large number of refugees and voluntary returnees in Ethiopia;

2. Appeals to Member States and to international organizations and voluntary agencies to provide adequate material, financial and technical assistance for relief and rehabilitation programmes for the large number of refugees and voluntary returnees in Ethiopia;

3. Requests the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to continue his efforts to mobilize humanitarian assistance for the relief, rehabilitation and resettlement of voluntary returnees and the large number of refugees in Ethiopia;

4. Requests the Secretary-General, in co-operation with the High Commissioner, to apprise the Economic and Social Council, at its second regular session of 1991, of the implementation of the present resolution and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session.

69th plenary meeting
18 December 1990

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A/RES/45/162
6 March 1991

Forty-fifth session
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RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the Third Committee (A/45/838)]

45/162. Summary of arbitrary executions

The General Assembly,

Recalling the provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1/ in which it is stated that every human being has the right to life, liberty and security of person,

Having regard to the provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, 2/ in which it is stated that every human being has the inherent right to life, that this right shall be protected by law and that no one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his life,

Recalling its resolution 36/22 of 9 November 1981, in which it condemned the practice of summary or arbitrary executions, and its resolutions 37/182 of 17 December 1982, 38/96 of 16 December 1983, 39/110 of 14 December 1984, 40/143 of 13 December 1985, 41/144 of 4 December 1986, 42/141 of 7 December 1987, 43/151 of 8 December 1988 and 44/159 of 15 December 1989,

Deeply alarmed at the continued occurrence on a large scale of summary or arbitrary executions, including extra-legal executions,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1984/50 of 25 May 1984 and the safeguards guaranteeing protection of the rights of those facing the death penalty annexed thereto, which resolution was endorsed by the Seventh United

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1/ Resolution 217 A (III).

2/ See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders in its resolution 15, 3/

Welcoming the close co-operation established between the Centre for Human Rights and the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat, and the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control with regard to the elaboration of the principles on the effective prevention and investigation of arbitrary and summary executions, including extra-legal executions,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/65 of 24 May 1989, containing the Principles on the Effective Prevention and Investigation of Extra-legal, Arbitrary and Summary Executions,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/64 of 24 May 1989, entitled "Implementation of the safeguards guaranteeing protection of the rights of those facing the death penalty" and the recommendations contained therein,

Convinced of the need for appropriate action to combat and eventually eliminate the abhorrent practice of summary or arbitrary executions, which represents a flagrant violation of the most fundamental human right, the right to life,

1. Once again strongly condemns the large number of summary or arbitrary executions, including extra-legal executions, that continue to take place in various parts of the world;

2. Demands that the practice of summary or arbitrary executions be brought to an end;

3. Appeals urgently to Governments, United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies, regional intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations to take effective action to combat and eliminate summary or arbitrary executions, including extra-legal executions;

4. Reaffirms Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/35 of 7 May 1982, in which the Council decided to appoint a special rapporteur to consider the questions related to summary or arbitrary executions;

5. Welcomes Economic and Social Council decision 1990/233 of 25 May 1990, in which the Council approved the decision of the Commission on Human Rights 4/ to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur for another two years and also

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3/ See Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Milan, 26 August-6 September 1985: report prepared by the Secretariat (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.86.IV.1), chap. I, sect. E.

4/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1990, Supplement No. 2 and corrigendum (E/1990/22 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A, resolution 1990/51.

approved the Commission's request to the Secretary-General to continue to provide all necessary assistance to the Special Rapporteur;

6. Urges all Governments, in particular those which have consistently not responded to communications transmitted to them by the Special Rapporteur, and all others concerned to co-operate with and assist the Special Rapporteur so that he may carry out his mandate effectively;

7. Requests the Special Rapporteur, in carrying out his mandate, to respond effectively to information that comes before him, in particular when a summary or arbitrary execution is imminent or threatened, or when such an execution has recently occurred, and, furthermore, to promote exchanges of views between Governments and those who provide reliable information to the Special Rapporteur, where the Special Rapporteur considers that such exchanges of information might be useful;

8. Welcomes the recommendations made by the Special Rapporteur in his reports, 5/ to the Commission on Human Rights at its forty-fourth, forty-fifth and forty-sixth sessions with a view to eliminating summary or arbitrary executions;

9. Encourages Governments, international organizations and non-governmental organizations to organize training programmes and support projects with a view to training or educating law enforcement officers in human rights issues connected with their work, and appeals to the international community to support endeavours to that end;

10. Considers that the Special Rapporteur, in carrying out his mandate, should continue to seek and receive information from Governments, United Nations bodies, specialized agencies, regional intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, as well as medical and forensic experts;

11. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to provide all necessary assistance to the Special Rapporteur so that he may effectively carry out his mandate;

12. Again requests the Secretary-General to continue to use his best endeavours in cases where the minimum standard of legal safeguards provided for in articles 6, 14 and 15 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights appear not to have been respected;

13. Requests the Commission on Human Rights at its forty-seventh session, on the basis of the report of the Special Rapporteur to be prepared in conformity with Economic and Social Council resolutions 1982/35, 1983/36, 1984/35, 1985/40, 1986/36, 1987/60 and 1988/38, to make recommendations concerning appropriate action to combat and eventually eliminate the abhorrent practice of summary or arbitrary executions.

69th plenary meeting
18 December 1990

5/ E/CN.4/1988/22 and Add.1 and 2, E/CN.4/1989/25 and E/CN.4/1990/22 and Corr.1 and Add.1.

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General Assembly

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A/RES/45/163
12 March 1991

Forty-fifth session
Agenda item 12

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the Third Committee (A/45/838)]

45/163. Strengthening of United Nations action in the human rights field through the promotion of international co-operation and the importance of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person and in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small, and its determination to promote social progress and better standards of living in greater freedom,

Bearing in mind that one of the purposes of the United Nations is to develop friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples and to take other appropriate measures to strengthen universal peace,

Bearing in mind equally that one of the purposes of the United Nations is to achieve international co-operation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

Recalling that, in accordance with Article 55 of the Charter of the United Nations, the Organization shall promote universal respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, with a view to the creation of conditions of stability and well-being that are necessary for peaceful and friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples, and that, in accordance with Article 56, all Members

pledge themselves to take joint and separate action in co-operation with the Organization for the achievement of the purposes set forth in Article 55,

Reiterating that Member States should continue to act in the human rights field in conformity with the provisions of the Charter,

Desirous of achieving further progress in international co-operation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Considering that such international co-operation should be based on the principles embodied in international law, especially the Charter, as well as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1/ the International Covenants on Human Rights 2/ and other relevant instruments,

Deeply convinced that such co-operation should be based on a profound understanding of the economic, social and cultural realities and the variety of problems existing in different societies,

Recalling its resolutions 32/130 of 16 December 1977, 37/200 of 18 December 1982, 41/155 of 4 December 1986 and 43/155 of 8 December 1988,

Bearing in mind its resolutions 2131 (XX) of 21 December 1965, 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970 and 36/103 of 9 December 1981,

Aware of the fact that the promotion, protection and full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms as legitimate concerns of the world community should be guided by the principles of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity and should not be used for political ends,

Underlining the obligation that Governments have to promote and protect human rights and to carry out the responsibilities that they have undertaken under international law, especially the Charter, as well as various international instruments in the field of human rights,

1. Reiterates that, by virtue of the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, all peoples have the right freely to determine, without external interference, their political status and to pursue their economic, social and cultural development, and that every State has the duty to respect that right within the provisions of the Charter, including respect for territorial integrity;

2. Reaffirms that it is a purpose of the United Nations and the task of all Member States in co-operation with the Organization to promote and encourage respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and to remain vigilant with regard to violations of human rights wherever they occur;

1/ Resolution 217 A (III).

2/ Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

3. Calls upon all Member States to base their activities for the protection and promotion of human rights, including the development of further international co-operation in this field, on the Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, 2/ the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights 2/ and other relevant international instruments and to refrain from activities that are inconsistent with this international legal framework;

4. Considers that international co-operation in this field should make an effective and practical contribution to the urgent task of preventing mass and flagrant violations of human rights, to the promotion of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all and to the strengthening of international peace and security;

5. Affirms that the promotion, protection and full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, as legitimate concerns of the world community, should be guided by the principles of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity and should not be used for political ends;

6. Expresses its conviction that an unbiased and fair approach to human rights issues contributes to the promotion of international co-operation as well as to the effective promotion, protection and realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

7. Underlines, in this context, the continuing need for impartial and objective information on the political, economic and social situations and events of all countries;

8. Invites Member States to consider adopting, as appropriate, within the framework of their respective legal systems and in accordance with their obligations under international law, especially the Charter, as well as international human rights instruments, the measures that they may deem appropriate to achieve further progress in international co-operation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms;

9. Requests the Commission on Human Rights, at its forty-seventh session, to examine the content of the present resolution, including ways and means to strengthen United Nations action in this regard.

69th plenary meeting
18 December 1990